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Intermountain Reporter

United States Department of Agriculture

• Forest Service

• Intermountain Region

• Ogden, Utah

• JANUARY 1991

GENERAL INTEREST

1891 - 1991 NATIONAL FOREST CENTENNIAL



The Centennial Celebration was kicked off in grand style on New Year's Day at the Rose Parade in Pasadena, California. Stan Tixier and horse are ready to join his fellow Regional Foresters, Deputy Chief Bill Rice, other Forest Service officials, and Region 1's mule pack train in the parade lineup where they will be seen by more than 300 million viewers.



UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS

- ★ 6/20-22 — National Forest History and Interpretation Symposium/Workshop in Missoula, Montana
- ★ 6/28-29 — Rededication of First Forest Reserve in Cody, Wyoming
- ★ 9/29-10/3 — Forest Service Reunion in Glenwood Springs, Colorado
(see page 6)

MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE

- ★ R-4 35x23 Poster
- ★ Logo Stickers
- ★ Video
- ★ Parade Banners
- ★ Table-top Exhibits

SOME PROPOSED REGION 4 ACTIVITIES

- ★ Restoration of historic facilities
- ★ Interpretive signs at historic sites
- ★ ATV trails
- ★ Restoring an 1890 Brewster spring box wagon
- ★ Trail posters
- ★ Self-guided auto tour tape
- ★ "Don't Break the Eggs" horse packing contest over 100 miles of trails
- ★ Public trail ride with Dutch oven cookout and campfire program
- ★ Video of scenic attraction and installation of VCR at the site
- ★ Campground interpretation

RO NEWS

Regional Forester's Message

As I get out in the field, I am impressed by the backcountry skills of Forest Service people as they work with pack and saddle stock, operate rubber rafts, drive a snowmobile or all-terrain-vehicle; and get around in the woods with map and compass. Just this past summer, I floated the Main Salmon River with Forest Service people and a number of outside "customers." The non-Forest Service people mentioned to me how impressed they were with the skills of our people in the camp kitchen and in floating that river. The past few years, two units in our Region captured the prestigious Primitive Skills Award.

Earlier in Forest Service history, you had to be able to pack a mule and have other backcountry skills to even get a job with the outfit. Obviously, our jobs today involve a lot more than "going out in the woods" and the Forest Service has actively recruited for specialized, diverse, "high tech" skills and more cosmopolitan people. But I think that backcountry skills and strong ties to the land are still essential in the work we do. Knowing and caring for National Forest lands are the values and abilities that make us unique and strong as an organization. Those skills and knowledge don't necessarily come naturally, and they're not always learned in college. It's also easy to let those things get away from us as we move up the career ladder and trade the early field jobs for management responsibilities.

My intent here is to encourage you all, especially those of you just starting your career with the Forest Service, to acquire and hone those backcountry skills. Learn horsemanship and winter sports skills or work to improve them. Start now to get in touch with the National Forests and make that part of your life. How many times has someone asked you, "You work for the FOREST SERVICE?" with a discernible tone of envy? It's our privilege to steward and care for the finest land in the country. Let's make full use of that privilege. Our agency is unique in the outdoor capabilities of our people. It's a Forest Service tradition I would like to see perpetuated.



J. S. TIXIER
Regional Forester

Merit Pay And Merit Pay Awards

Merit Pay is a performance-based system for supervisors and managers at or above the GS-13 level. These increases come from funds that otherwise would be used for step increases under the GS system. Under Merit Pay, employees in the first three steps get a full step increase each year if their performance rating is at least "Fully Successful," just as they would in the regular GS system. When they reach the equivalent of step 4, the pay increases change to 1/3 step for fully successful; 1/2 step for superior; and a full step for outstanding. Thus, it is possible for a person in the fourth step to need 3 years to get to the fifth step, instead of the 2 years in the GS system.

In addition to regular Merit increases, those in this Region with fully successful ratings or better are eligible for Merit Awards, which do NOT become part of the base pay. The funds for these awards come from a set-aside of approximately 1% of base GM (Merit) pay. The law mandates such a set-aside to be between .75 and 1.5%. This compares with last year's performance awards of \$667,329, or .42% of the Region's TOTAL budget for nonmerit pay people. The percentage would be higher if it were computed only on base payroll costs. Approached from a different perspective, performance awards for nonmerit pay folks were enough to fully fund a medium-size District in this Region. There has also been a dramatic increase in nonmonetary awards. In the first 6 months of FY 1990, the Regional Office Purchasing Staff alone spent about \$29,000 for approximately 17,788 such awards, which primarily went to nonmerit pay folks.

The Merit Pay awards are based on a point system where the numerical value of "Exceeds" element ratings is divided by the total number of elements. A cutoff score is then determined which results in about 85-90% of those in Merit Pay receiving awards in varying amounts based on the score. There is no adjustment for grade, so it is possible for a GM-13 to receive as much or more than a GM-15. In the last 2 years, the award payouts were as follows:

	HIGH	AVERAGE	LOW
1990:			
Forests	\$1,525.97	\$953.73	\$681.24
Regional Office	1,525.88	1,017.25	726.61
1989:			
Forests	\$1,262.43	\$882.82	\$626.80
Regional Office	1,421.95	917.39	651.35
1988:			
Forests	\$1,457.66	\$847.27	\$519.29
Regional Office	1,714.41	825.12	458.40

FALLEN ANGELS SPREAD WINGS

The crimes committed by the inmates in the Women's Correctional Facility of the Utah State Prison vary as do their sentences. Some have families—husbands, children, or parents—waiting for them on the outside. And some have goals and ambitions that have temporarily been put on hold while they pay their debt to society.

Last year, a group of young, capable women inmates expressed an interest in creating a conservation crew similar to the one from the men's facility. A pilot program was soon launched and it has been very successful. The women named the crew "the Fallen Angels." They are grateful to key people like Glen Begal from State Lands and Forestry and Lt. Glen Johnstun and Paul Pantoja, Lone Peak Staff Officers, for helping coordinate, supervise and guide the Angels into a well organized, responsible team.

This year, the Fallen Angels spread their wings by starting a physical training program to qualify them as firefighters. They were given first aid and CPR training and 30 hours of chain saw training by the Forest Service. The Angels learned to disassemble a chain saw, clean and sharpen it and then fell, limb and buck a tree. They are now a fire-smart camp crew that assists the camp manager in smoothly operating a comfortable fire camp.

The Angels' list of responsibilities in camp may be brief, but their duties are endless. They're expected to help set up tents for makeshift offices for overhead personnel (planning, finance, and operations). The eating tents must be put up and trash cans emptied often. The camp manager also farms them out for various jobs. After finishing the initial

tasks, the ladies search out odd jobs that will keep them busy. "They're very responsible and hard working," says Jaki Sodderquist, Badger Creek Fire Camp Manager. "I have no concerns about a job getting done." Sodderquist says the Angels are very easy to work with and she has enjoyed getting to know them. "Once in a while you run into a crew you want to take home. This is one."

After only three fires, some of them already have established positions in the camp organization. Penny's background in bookkeeping and organizational skills has earned her a job in Supply. "Every truckload of supplies has to be inventoried," she says. "And we keep track of what each crew checks out and checks back in again." She keeps track of everything from Nomex clothing, to paper sleeping bags, to Pulaskis. "We go through a lot of batteries—batteries and clean clothes." And when Penny and others in Supply aren't handing out and trading items, they're busy sharpening Pulaskis, shovels, and chain saws.

Crew members have worked hard to get where they are. They've earned respect and trust from their officials and other crews in camp. "We want this to work—for us and for the next girls on the crew," says Debby (32). "We're grateful for this opportunity and we depend on each other to make it successful."

There is a high turnover rate, however. For a women to be on the crew, she must have not more than 36 months of imprisonment left. By this time next year, all but one of this crew will have been paroled. "It will be hard to say good-bye," says Becky Demunbrum, Women's Facility Staff Officer, who oversees the crew. "They work well as a team."

Another qualifier for joining the crew is to be at Level 5 of their rating system. This level shows they have demonstrated responsible behavior, can be trusted and deserve to earn money from newly learned skills. Crew members enjoy the hard work and feel a tremendous amount of self worth. "It's nice to be needed," said Carma (31). Penny commented. "It's much more worthwhile than sitting and staring at walls."

The Angels all have different ideas for the future. Some are making plans for next year while others aren't thinking any further ahead than tonight's dinner. Those who have plans have obviously thought long and hard about where they are, how they got there and what they want to do next. Most of them admit they made a mistake but they want a second chance. Judy and Carma both want to be counselors that help adolescents stay out of the trouble they found themselves in. Berlinda (26), whose husband was shot last year in a gang-related incident, is going back to her Nurse's Aid position. Debby wants to get herself and her son on a firefighting crew together. Some of the women find it impossible to plan that far ahead. Their concerns are focused on simply taking care of themselves when they get out—on satisfying the basics: food, clothing, shelter and staying straight. Those with no family and only friends in the wrong places fear what will happen to them. They know that the choice is theirs, but they also know how difficult it will be not to follow the path of least resistance.



The Fallen Angels help keep track of supplies at a fire camp.

RO NEWS

Their daily struggle will be to remain drug free and work for \$4 an hour in a warehouse rather than \$400 a day selling cocaine.

The Fallen Angels are picking up the pieces and getting ready to move on. They have been given a chance and have successfully proven to themselves and

others that they are capable and valuable. Being treated equally in a fire camp has returned dignity and self-esteem to these women. They have learned new skills and found new interests. Some of these interests may be pursued when the women are paroled. If not, then the Angels, at the very least, got to have a positive experience

away from their monotonous prison environment.

Lynette Davis
Public Contact Representative
and Fire Information Officer
on the Badger Creek Fire
Idaho Bureau of Land Management
State Office

The Weed Explosion

Imagine a cleverly disguised alien making its way undetected into the United States. Before the alarm can be sounded, it slips quickly and quietly into Utah and Nevada and parts of Idaho, Wyoming and California. It joins other aliens who have crept in from Oregon, Canada, and Montana, hitchhiking their way into the Intermountain Region. Together they become a parasitic drain on the area's environmental and economic lifeblood.

While a handful of visionaries try to alert the public to the danger, few listen and even fewer understand. The aliens begin to take over, gaining control of new acreages every year. They are oblivious to the human's ineffective battle to limit their spread.

Fantasy? No. Noxious weeds! The damage they do in Idaho alone is equivalent to the Teton Dam collapsing each year, as it did in June of 1976. The weed threat is many, many times more serious than any other long-term environmental pollution in the Intermountain Region. Even though the damage to natural wildlands and wildlife habitat is as great as it is to rangelands and farms, it cannot be measured in dollars.

Most noxious weeds are not native to North America so there are few natural biological controls, such as diseases, predators, or parasites, to keep them in



Al Winward, Regional Ecologist, and a Scotch thistle.

check. They are highly competitive and flourish in disturbed sites. They strangle native ecosystems, replacing them with less diverse stands. In the past, only farmers and stockmen were concerned about noxious weeds. Today, spreading noxious weeds affect many, including landowners, hikers, hunters, fishermen and campers.

A noxious weed is one that has been designated "noxious" by Regulation of the Secretaries of Agriculture or Interior, by State law, or by a County ordinance. Examples of noxious weeds in the Intermountain Region are the knapweeds (Russian, Spotted, and diffuse), the thistles (Canada, Scotch, and Musk), Dyer's Woad, Rush Skeletonweed, and Whitetop. We currently have over 200,000 acres of noxious weeds in the Region, yet we treat only around 8,000 acres each year. The acres infested by noxious weeds has been doubling every 10 years. For example, Spotted knapweed was first reported in Utah in 1977. By 1980, it had spread over 321 acres in three counties. The 1989 Statewide survey indicates that at least 1,649 acres are infested in 13 Utah counties.

The Forest Service has a two-fold role in noxious weed management. One is cooperation with state, county and federal agencies in planning and implementing noxious weed management strategies. The other is to actively control weeds that are impacting the National Forests or are potential threats to our neighbors.

In our control activities, our management strategy is first to educate our employees and neighbors about noxious weeds we already have, where they are located, and what potential invaders are posing a threat to National Forests. New weeds invade National Forest lands every year. The State of Idaho alone gets nine new weed species each year and that's a big information job. That done, we take action to prevent these new invaders from entering and becoming established on a site and eradicating them when they are found.

One way to bring the growing population of invader weeds under control is to introduce specific enemies of the weed from its native territory. These biocontrols must be supplemented by selected spraying and mechanical removal where containment is threatened and filling the competitive void with beneficial native plants.

By aiming our limited resources at preventing new infestations and by applying biological controls to established stands, we hope to reduce the weed explosion. Noxious weeds are not just a Forest Service problem, nor just an agricultural problem. Weeds are troublesome to just about everyone in the Intermountain Region. Weeds know no ownership boundary; therefore, each landowner and land management agency must be involved in noxious weed management if we are to limit the size of infestations. Each person has a stake because noxious weeds affect our natural heritage—the land and its resources.

Curtis Johnson
Range and Watershed
Regional Office

CENTENNIAL NEWS

Big Game, Wildlife, and Other Conservation Causes

(This is mini-history 6 in the on-going series being prepared by the Washington Office History Unit to launch the 1991 Centennial. The mini-histories cover the origins of the National Forest System and its evolution.)



Early forest conservation advocates were fueled by differing personal agendas. For example, one group that indirectly supported the creation of forest reserves—the Boone and Crockett Club—had as its first priority the preservation of big game habitat. When examined historically, the legacy of wildlife management in the Forest Service may have begun when Theodore Roosevelt founded the Boone and Crockett Club in 1887.

Roosevelt, who was to be United States President from 1901-1909, started this "club of American hunting riflemen" after spending time in the Badlands of North Dakota as an explorer and rancher. There he witnessed the slaughter of wild game as railroads entered remote areas bringing settlers and trophy hunters. Returning to New York to resume his political career, Roosevelt held a dinner for a group of writers, scientists, explorers, and political leaders who had been big game hunting and spent time out West. He used these common ties to unite them in the Boone and Crockett Club and the group became an important nucleus of the conservation movement. One member of the club, George Bird Grinnell, was influential in advising Roosevelt on natural resource issues.

George Bird Grinnell (1849-1938) traveled West as part of a scientific and exploratory group. He found wild animals being slaughtered in great numbers by market hunters who supplied game to

urban restaurants and markets and by agents for dealers in pelts and feathers. Some game laws existed but public concern was minimal and enforcement was weak.

Only a wealthy few hunted for recreation, usually on the protected lands of their estates. By mid-century, these sportsmen began to band together in clubs that were as much wildlife conservation lobbying groups as social ones. One target was to eliminate market hunting for waterfowl on the Chesapeake Bay. This was part of a larger effort to end market hunting, prevent spring shooting of game birds, and spur enforcement of existing game laws.

Lawsuits against New York City restaurant owners helped end the practice of market hunting. In other locations, the crusade took longer. As a refuge for bison and other big game, Yellowstone Park (created in 1872) attracted poachers and tourist hunters until the army took over its management in 1886. Yet, there was no legal way of bringing vandals and game killers to trial; a situation that led members of the Boone and Crockett Club to rally against the ravages in Yellowstone Park. This protest fit the Club's goal of "preservation of the big game of North America."

Although never large in number (about 100 core members), the Club's membership included powerful opinion molders such as Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Owner Wister (novelist), General William T. Sherman, and Albert Bierstadt (painter), as well as many who became active in the conservation movement, such as Gifford Pinchot, Madison Grant (founder of Save the Redwoods League), Arnold Hague of the U.S. Geological Survey, C. Hart Merriam (head of the U.S. Biological Survey), and George Bird Grinnell (who was then editor of Forest and Stream magazine). Grinnell used the magazine to publish an exposé of poaching in Yellowstone Park.

The Club is credited with helping push through the 1894 Yellowstone Park Protection Act which was the basis for the idea of National Parks being wildlife and wilderness sanctuaries. Earlier the group had supported advocates of the forest reserves in their efforts to pro-

mote the 1891 Act. That Act fit the Club's goal to enlarge the boundary of Yellowstone Park with the first reserve and the reserves provided permanent wildlife habitat.

Reference: *An American Crusade for Wildlife*, James B. Trefethen. 1975. Winchester Press: Boone and Crockett Club, New York.

Presently, the Boone and Crockett Club is donating the \$10,000 first place cash purchase award in the National Forest Centennial Celebration poster art competition being hosted by the C.M. Russell Museum and the Lewis and Clark National Forest, Great Falls, Montana. The competition is open to artists Nationwide. From the submissions, artwork will be selected for a commemorative National Forest Centennial poster depicting 100 years of conservation through the National Forest System. The poster will later be sold.

In addition to the first place award, judges will select an additional 25 "honorable mention" artworks for a National Forest System Centennial Exhibition at the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana. An exhibition tour across the country is also being planned and then the winning entry will be permanently displayed at the Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Artists who would like a free entry packet for the competition should call Bonnie Dearing on (406) 791-7754 or Tom Brayshaw on (406) 727-8787 or write:

Lewis and Clark National Forest
Box 869
Great Falls, Montana 59403

or

C.M. Russell Museum
400 13th Street North
Great Falls, Montana 59401-1426

CENTENNIAL NEWS

Centennial Reunion is Scheduled

As part of the National Forest System Centennial, the White River National Forest in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, is hosting the first national reunion of Forest Service employees. Employees and retirees from Stations, Regions, and Areas are invited. The reunion will take place September 29 to October 2.

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1991—

Registration at Hotel Colorado . . . No-host Social

-MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1991-

Panel of Forest Service Chiefs . . . Barbecue
Regional Socials . . . Music . . . Historical Display
Glenwood Springs Museum . . . Gifford Pinchot Enactment

—TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1991—

Tours: Glenwood Canyon . . . Aspen
Trapper's Lake . . . Town of Marble

Other Activities: Social Rooms

*Hot Springs Pool . . . Technical Demonstrations
Colorado River Rafting . . . Golf Tournament*

—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1991—

Breakfast . . . Awards and Recognitions

Old Uniforms Fashion Show . . . Self-guided Tours

Special Program

There is some urgency for making reservations as the advertised cutoff date was January 15.

A horizontal dashed line with a small scissors icon at the left end, indicating where to cut the page.

Accommodations needed: _____ Meter or Meter: _____ Living for: _____

Name and address for reservation packet:

Please mail R.S.V.P. to:

Telephone

SHARING MEMORIES AND VISIONS
National Forest Service Reunion
P.O. Box 1064
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

A Tribute to a Volunteer



Chuck Christensen

Spring 1986. Winter avalanches had buried nearly every trail on the Teton Basin Ranger District with trees. Some two-mile sections were covered with more than 200 trees. There was certainly enough work to keep a trail crew busy; however, there was no funding for trail work that year. In stepped Chuck Christensen, a local school-teacher who loved to ride his mules in the mountains. Over the next two months, Chuck cut out approximately 1,400 trees on 137 miles of trail, sometimes working until 10 p.m. to finish a trail. He had been bitten by the volunteer bug.

1987. Chuck volunteered to take on the development and construction of a horse transfer camp in Teton Canyon. Trails in Teton Canyon have long been popular with both horse riders and hikers. That popularity sometimes lead to congestion in the parking area, especially when horse trailers needed to be turned around. To get started, Chuck interviewed other horse riders for design suggestions. Then the work began. Over the next 2 years, he cleared the area, constructed unloading ramps, a corral, hitchracks and feed stations. Water was installed and the parking area was gravelled. Finally, a trail, complete with bridge, accessed the North and South Teton trails. Chuck's enthusiasm spread to other volunteers he had enlisted to help him, including the Backcountry Horsemen who volunteered to gravel the access trails. Because of Chuck Christensen, horse riders now have a good facility to make their backcountry experience even more enjoyable.

Now the rest of the story.

In 1990, Chuck was ill and unable to work on the transfer camp. The Backcountry Horsemen and some Eagle Scouts jointly completed the finishing touches—a picnic table, fire

rings, and outhouse. And then it was time for some recognition. On September 8, a dedication ceremony was held at Transfer Camp and Chuck Christensen was honored. This event was another partnership effort. The Citizens for Teton Valley contributed funds toward the cost of a bronze plaque that will be erected at the site. The Eagle Rock Backcountry Horsemen organized a barbecue and social ride following the dedication. Many of Chuck's friends and fellow horse riders attended to share stories and reflect on the summer's adventures. After receiving a copy of the inscription for the plaque, Chuck responded with these words, "Volunteer work is probably the richest opportunity (blessing really) you can have—partly because nobody dares fire you. Seriously, you get to work at something you love to do and it's really fulfilling. I would like to tell people to find a project they are interested in, preferably in the mountains. It's the most fulfilling thing there is to do personally."

Words to inspire us all.

Linda Merigiano
Forest Technician
Teton Basin Ranger District
Targhee National Forest

ADVICE TO THE VENTURESOME

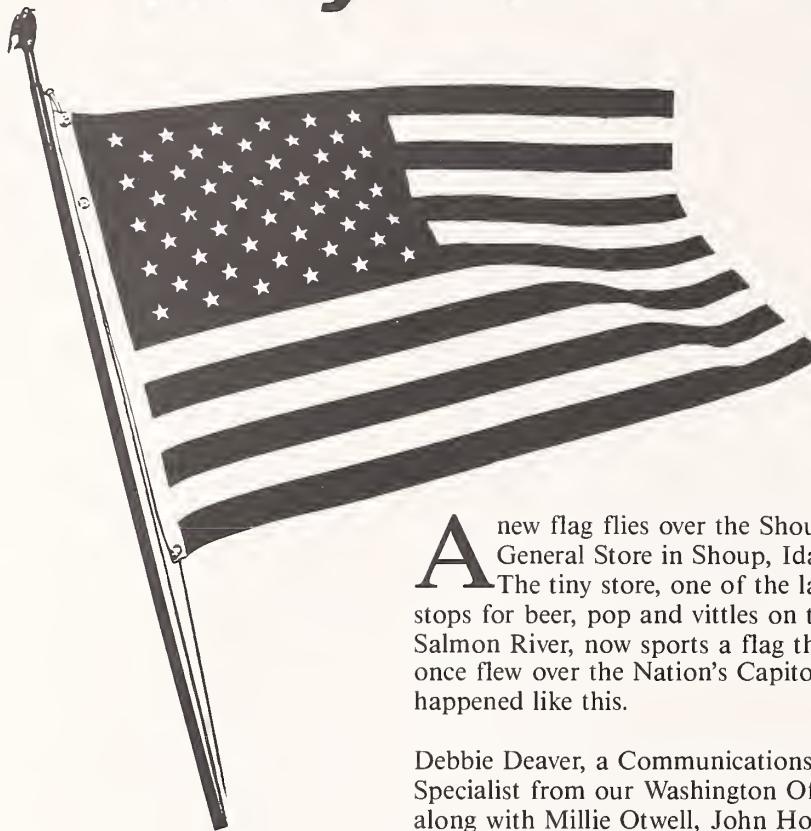
Backcountry skiers should remember to carry the following items in their packs: an avalanche beeper, all-purpose knife, 6- by 8-foot tarp, metal cup, spare ski tip, candle and 000-grade steel wool for fire starter, 100-foot nylon cord, first-aid kit, wax kit, high-energy food and a shovel.

It's neat to get away from the crowds and enjoy the wilds of winter but be sure to check the weather forecasts and avalanche danger before hitting the ridge tops.



FOREST NEWS

Rally Round the Flag



A new flag flies over the Shoup General Store in Shoup, Idaho. The tiny store, one of the last stops for beer, pop and vittles on the Salmon River, now sports a flag that once flew over the Nation's Capitol. It happened like this.

Debbie Deaver, a Communications Specialist from our Washington Office, along with Millie Otwell, John Hoel and Cleveland Barnett from the Regional Office, were on the Salmon National Forest to look at its telecommunication system.

Like so many thirsty tourists, they and their guides, George Gonder, Eric Proctor and Mark Threlkill stopped at the Shoup Store for refreshments. It wasn't long before they were in deep discussion with the new store owners,

Garry and Peggy Pedrows about how river residents "communicated."

The Pedrows showed them their old power generator that has kept Shoup store owners in power for over 75 years. They also demonstrated how to use the old ground return telephone line that the Forest Service installed along the Salmon River in 1931.

Using the old telephone, which has to be cranked to ring the operator, was a treat and one that not just anybody will get to do anymore. The old party line was replaced by private line, touch-tone technology a few weeks after this visit.

The visitors were so impressed by the Pedrows' friendliness that they wanted to send a present to thank them. Millie noticed the Store's American flag, which flies above the porch, was in tatters and suggested they send a new one.

But Deaver, who was to purchase the flag when she returned to Washington, went one better. She arranged for Senator James McClure's office to send the store a flag that had flown over the Capitol on April 24 of this year. The date has special significance to the Shoup area. On April 24, 1882, gold was discovered in Shoup and that discovery set off a rush that put the town on the Nation's map.

Salmon River Industries

The Salmon National Forest is helping a local business get started. Salmon River Industries is a Developmental Workshop project that employs local disabled people. The project is designed to provide these people with vocational training and employment opportunities according to Gerald Hodges, Vice President of Operations for Development Workshops, Inc. Ten people with disabilities will be hired initially but the project should employ 25-30 within 3 years.

The Workshop plans new economic activities in Salmon that may include manufacturing wooden products such as survey stakes, laths, bridging, mining wedges, pallets and wooden packing blocks.

Seed money for the project is being provided by Rural Development Funds made available through the Salmon National Forest. Salmon River Industries was selected to receive \$40,000 of the \$250,000 the Forest Service has made available in 17 western states to enhance

the economy in rural areas. When the money became available, Development Workshops, Inc., designed the project for the Salmon area. Other supporters of the project include the City of Salmon, Lemhi County and the Salmon Chamber of Commerce.

Salmon River Industries will utilize natural resources from the Salmon area. The business will also contribute to the local economy by purchasing local goods and services and providing new jobs and wages.

A Monitoring We Will Go . . .

For 4 days in August, resource professionals combed through timber sales across the Dixie National Forest. While informal sale monitoring has been done in the past, this was the first, formal Forestwide effort at a thorough "post-mortem" to evaluate compliance of timber sale activities with commitments made in the environmental decision.

One day was spent evaluating two completed timber sales—a large Supervisor's sale and a small Ranger's sale—on each of the four timber Districts. The review team was from the Supervisor's Office and included Julianne Thompson (Hydrologist), Dan Duffield (Fisheries), Ron Rodriguez (Wildlife), Brian Ferguson (Silviculture), Barry Johnson (Timber), Kay Iverson (Engineer), Jim Bayer (Soils), Ric Rine (NEPA Coordinator), Rollo Brunson (Timber/Planning), and Anne Shafer (Wildlife). The hosting District Ranger and his timber staff provided preliminary guidance and background information and fielded comments and questions during the review.

The tour answered two questions: "Did we do what we said we were going to do?" and "Did our proposals work?" Members of the Monitoring Team researched the original timber sale environmental assessment (EA) in advance to identify critical proposed activities which would be visited during the review by Team resource specialists and District people who oversaw sale preparation and

administration. There they determined whether activities were accomplished with expected results.

Each stop typically generated a rich discussion between District "do-ers" and "reviewers" from the Supervisor's Office. Shortcomings and successes were noted and ways to improve delivery of high quality, environmentally-sound timber sales were discussed. As a followup measure, on-site visits were scheduled between individual specialists and District people to refine mitigation efforts or treatment prescriptions. The group found a high degree of compliance with the original environmental assessment and decision. It was generally agreed though, that the EA's produced in the early to mid-1980's would not be adequate by today's standards.

The "close-out" was designed to brainstorm, identify and create solutions to problems, and document successes in followthrough from the EA to post-sale work. The group produced a list of actions to address problem areas. Additionally, a proposal was drafted asking Forest Supervisor Hugh Thompson to create two short-term "Quality Improvement Teams" to draft Forest policy and processes in several critical areas of timber sale preparation and administration.

Participants from the Supervisor's Office and District hailed the tour as a very constructive first step toward formal Forest-level timber sale monitoring. One District Ranger commented that the group "did not drift into special agenda items and personal gripes"—a concern shared by some of his District people. Everyone provided good feedback on improving this approach and looks forward to next year's review.

Ric Rine
Monitoring Review Coordinator and
Closeout Facilitator
Dixie National Forest

Mitigation measures on a road closure near a streamcourse are examined and discussed by the team.



FOREST NEWS

Through the Eyes of Those Who Love “THE FRANK”

Pioneer lives are woven into America's natural tapestry. A modern pioneer is Senator Frank Church from Idaho who unraveled the warp and woof of bureaucratic red tape to preserve one of nature's last untouched legacies—Idaho's Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness (FCRONR).

On June 13, Bethine Church attended the unveiling of a memorial plaque honoring Frank Church and his efforts in establishing the 2.2 million-acre Wilderness. The ceremony took place at the Big Creek trailhead at Smith Creek, one of the most popular access points into the FCRONR Wilderness, the largest Wilderness in the lower 48 states.

The Wilderness bears Church's name to recognize his pioneering legislation in 1980 to attain Wilderness designation. Church called it, “The crown jewel of the Wilderness System.” Church's name was attached to the

Wilderness prior to his death in 1984.

Officials of the Payette National Forest, particularly the Krassel Ranger District, felt it appropriate to honor Church with a bronze plaque mounted on a huge granite boulder adjacent to the trailhead. The plaque bears Church's statement, “The real meaning of Wilderness will open our eyes like an Idaho sunrise on a summer morning.”

“Earl Kimball (now retired Krassel District Ranger) talked about this dedication for 3 years and now it's come to pass,” said Payette Forest Supervisor Sonny LaSalle. “A group of people from all over the United States stood around that dusty, rocky, end-of-the-road location in central Idaho and shared the emotion Bethine exhibited. She was very touched.”

James L. Kincaid
Payette National Forest



Bethine Church attends the unveiling of a memorial plaque honoring her husband, Senator Frank Church, and his role in designating the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness.

As the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness celebrated its 10th anniversary, Bethine Church had this to say:

Frank had a sense for the important things in life and his sense of humor was intact to the very end.

When he was told that the River of No Return Wilderness had been named for him, he had tears of joy in his eyes. He immediately said, with a twinkle, that not many people live long enough to see their own monument. But those with him could see the distance in his eyes and knew that he was seeing the spectacular peaks, lush valleys, tumbling rivers, bubbling streams and the remote

beauty of this heart of his homeland.

... I'm sure if Frank were alive today, the number of Idaho people using the Wilderness—hunters, fishermen, backpackers, naturalists, whitewater enthusiasts of all sorts, and families (down to the smallest member riding on a parent's back)—would be a triumph to him.

One of the arguments against Wilderness 25 years ago (when the Wilderness Act was approved) and still used today is that Wilderness locks out the people of Idaho, benefiting only wealthy Easterners (and now opponents would add wealthy Californians). Frank would revel in the fact that Idahoans are the

major users and lovers of the area and that they care so much for the land.

Frank would understand that administering and caring for such a large and diversified area has its difficulties. He would applaud Congressman Richard Stallings' call for the six Forests that manage the Wilderness to reassess their management strategies. He would approve of the task force formed to help the Forest Service with that task. He'd also be pleased at how swiftly Forest officials met to work on the issue.

Frank would have been appalled, as I have been, at the notion that since a river already runs through the

FOREST NEWS

Wilderness, a road would not be obtrusive. However, he would have been delighted and pleased that some people have nicknamed the Wilderness, "The Frank." He always felt he'd come home when he stopped hearing "Senator Church" and heard

"Hi, Frank." The Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness is a big mouthful.

So, today I write this knowing how satisfied Frank would be with his and other's efforts to preserve God's

special creation. He would be filled with happiness to know that "The Frank" is contributing to the quality of life for the young and old, for all our children and grandchildren.

THE AUGUST 30 POST REGISTER HAD THIS TO SAY ABOUT THE FCRONR WILDERNESS

Here is a part of the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness as described by numbers

<p>zero No stop lights, telephone calls or rap musicians.</p> <p>1 One breathtaking vista after another.</p> <p>2.3 The number of acres—in millions—of the Frank Church Wilderness. It is the largest contiguous Wilderness in the continental United States.</p> <p>3 The types of grouse in the area—spruce grouse, blue grouse and sage grouse.</p> <p>5 The average number of days it takes to float the Main Fork of the Salmon River.</p> <p>6 The number of mountain goats seen above the Magruder Ranger Station and the Selway Canyon.</p> <p>7 The number of public airstrips that service the Wilderness.</p> <p>14 The trails range in width from 6 inches to 3 feet but average about 14 inches.</p> <p>25 The number of elk seen on the first day of a recent trip.</p> <p>42 There are 42 land-based outfitters in the Wilderness that provide hunting and horseback trips.</p> <p>76 That's the number of water-based outfitters in the Wilderness. They provide float trips and steelhead fishing.</p> <p>100 The approximate number of people working on trail preservation in the Forest.</p>	<p>125 The approximate weight in pounds of the black bear that is regularly seen above Lantz Bar on the Salmon River.</p> <p>215 The number of floatable miles on the Main and Middle Forks of the Salmon River.</p> <p>296 The number of different hiking and horseback trails in the Wilderness.</p> <p>367 The number of animal species in the River of No Return Wilderness. That number encompasses mammals, birds, fish and reptiles.</p> <p>1964 The year Congress passed the Wilderness Act which assured the preservation and protection of large chunks of America in its natural condition.</p> <p>1980 The year the River of No Return Wilderness was officially created. Two years later Frank Church's name was added to recognize his role in creating the Wilderness Area.</p> <p>2,615 The total number of horse trails in the FCRONR Wilderness. Some date back into the 1800's; others are brand new.</p> <p>8,800 The altitude at the top of Waugh Mountain.</p> <p>500,000 The number of dollars—in the Salmon District alone—spent on trail preservation last year.</p> <p>1,000,000 The number of reasons you'll find to enjoy the Frank Church—River of No Return Wilderness.</p>
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FOREST NEWS

Made Whole

This past summer, the Humboldt National Forest held a dedication ceremony marking the completion of a 5,589-acre land exchange/land purchase between the Forest Service, the Trust for Public Lands and a local rancher. This transaction, which took over a year of complicated negotiations to complete, allowed the Forest Service to purchase checkerboard lands in to Lamoille Canyon.

U.S. Senator Harry Reid and Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich took part in the ceremony. Both of these public officials as well as Senator Richard Bryon, Congressman James Bilbray and the Trust For Public Lands lobbied for the Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriation which was used to purchase the property.

Negotiations on this land transfer began in 1977, but a number of issues made the negotiations long and difficult. In 1987, the Trust For Public Lands (TPL) was asked to enter the negotiation process. Harriett Burgess, TPL Vice President, visited Lamoille Canyon and the Ruby Mountains to assess the situation and was impressed with the beauty of the area.

TPL purchased a private ranch from another landowner and used this

ranch property as well as some cash to exchange for private lands in Lamoille Canyon. In addition, TPL set up a land exchange proposal with the landowner, the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to transfer additional checkerboard lands within the Forest boundary.

Locally, a group of people called Friends of Lamoille Canyon helped TPL cover costs of the transactions. As Senator Reid commented at the dedication, "The entire project was the result of extensive teamwork involving TPL, the Forest Service, landowner, BLM, senators, congressmen, Friends of Lamoille Canyon and countless other supporters."

This purchase will greatly benefit the Humboldt National Forest and the people who enjoy it. Lamoille Canyon is truly a special place with rugged mountain peaks and glaciated canyons. With the purchase, there is no longer a concern that private development will be attracted to Lamoille Canyon and seriously impact the scenic beauty, recreational opportunities and environmental quality.

Cheri Howell
Public Affairs Specialist
Humboldt National Forest

(Left to right) Aaron Peskin, TPL Project Leader; Senator Harry Reid and Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich unveil the plaque that will be placed along the road in Lamoille Canyon.



FOREST NEWS

Willow Cutting

When the Kamas Ranger District on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest presented its grazing prescription for 1990, the Kamas Valley Grazers Association was given an opportunity to respond. As presented, the prescription prohibited grazing in the Slate Creek and Left Hand Canyons.

The Kamas Valley Grazers Association proposed an alternate prescription which included planting willows in both canyons to rehabilitate the riparian areas. "We're just as concerned with the future of these areas and improving the environment as the Forest Service is," said permittee Rex Page.

"We can insure future use of these National Forest lands for us and recreationists by rehabilitating these riparian areas."

The Forest Service happily included this proposal in the prescription. "The Association is making a very positive contribution toward improving the environment," said Kamas District Ranger Rick Patten.

A platoon of partners then joined forces. There were North and South Summit High Schools; Forest Service employees—Clare Chalkley, Range Conservationist; Calvin Baker, Resource Forester; and Dave Swank, Forester; and permittees—Jay Marchant, Moroni Marchant, Elmer McNeil, Steve Moon, Rex Page, and Gerald Young who gave technical support to 60 Future Farmers of America from both schools.

Teachers Lloyd Marchant from North Summit High and Dave Aplanalp from South Summit High provided preplanting supervision during the

willow cutting—600 cut previously by Clare Chalkley and Calvin Baker and 3,000 cut by the students. The students cut and gathered the black and golden willows and then established the roots by hydroponic treatment, a technique which provides oxygen and special nutrients to the water to promote the establishment of stems. The willows were then planted by hand.

The payoff for this hard work is: an increase in water tables, improved local fish habitat, reduced in-stream sedimentation, establishment of vegetation and roots to protect and stabilize the banks, a reduction of the effects of flooding, improved habitat diversity for wildlife and improved water quality.

Voila! The environment was improved and so were working relationships with the permittees. "New communication avenues were opened which pave the way for partnership opportunities in the future," stated

Clare Chalkley. "All around, I would say this was a very successful project."

Jeanny Kim
Supervisor's Office
Wasatch-Cache National Forest



High school students plant willows to rehabilitate riparian areas in Slate Creek and Left Hand Canyons on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest.



If you have to address a noisy gathering, try playing music as the crowd gathers before the speech begins. When music stops abruptly, groups usually stop talking and turn to see what happened.

SPECIAL INTEREST

E S P
Everyday Serving People

JUST ASK

—“How do you feel about the helpfulness of agency employees?”

—“How do you feel about the cleanliness and condition of the recreation facilities?”

—“Are there any improvements you feel are needed in access, facilities, or information for people who come here?”

These are but 3 of 30-35 questions that customers on the Twin Falls and Burley Ranger Districts on the Sawtooth National Forest were asked this past summer by Earl and Grace Henry.

The Henrys, from Greenville, Kentucky, are National Forest Volunteers who have been conducting a “customer survey.” By the end of the summer, they will have interviewed more than 600 customers. This is the third year the Henrys have been volunteer surveyors. Prior assignments were at Cape Cod and on the Oregon Coast. Grace said, “We’re sold on Idaho people; they have been so cooperative.”

The survey is done in conjunction with the Southeast Forest and Range Experiment Station headquartered in Athens, Georgia. The Station provides trained volunteers to do survey work on the National Forests. As Group Leader for the Station’s Outdoor Recreation and Wilderness Assessment Group, Ken Gordel is also the Project Leader for CUSTOMER (the name of this survey).

Forest Supervisor Ron Stoleson says this survey will provide information that will help the Sawtooth National Forest meet its goal of quality customer service. To the Forest that means “consistent conformance to customer expectations.” “How can we meet expectations if we don’t know our customers and what they expect from their National Forests?” he asks.

Terry Fletcher, Forest Coor-

dinator for the survey, explained that, in addition to summer customers the Henrys will survey, other volunteers will survey hunters and skiers. He said, “We expect to complete the survey of the southern part of the Forest this year. After that the Ketchum and Fairfield Ranger Districts and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area will be surveyed, winding up the project by the spring of 1992.

The National Park Service/City of Rocks National Reserve and the South Central Idaho Travel Committee are involved in the project since they share the same customer base.

The customer interview takes approximately 20 minutes and those interviewed are also given a response card to send to the Southeast Forest and Range Experiment Station.

The CUSTOMER survey provides:

- A profile of activities and reasons for visiting public sites.
- A summary of annual recreation participation and activity choices of visitors at public sites.
- A trip profile of visitors to public sites: trip origin, travel times, distances, alternate destinations, and information on repeat visits.
- An inventory of travel mode, equipment brought and used, and equipment rentals.
- An expenditure figure for travel, food, lodging activities, and other expenses during the recreational trip.
- The expectations of the visitor and preferences for facilities, services, and opportunities.
- An evaluation of services, facilities and hospitality.
- A demographic profile of recreationists.

Additional information can be developed from the data gathered such as: economic value of recreational opportunities, willingness to pay, effects of economic development (including income, taxes, and jobs in areas around recreation sites), and market analysis (identifies markets, favorite activities, demographics, and preferences). This information will help in marketing, forecasting, planning and managing.

The CUSTOMER Survey is also being conducted this year on the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area on the Ashley National Forest.

Earl Henry interviews visitors to the Diamondfield Jack area of the Twin Falls Ranger District.



SPECIAL INTEREST

A Couple of Nice Guys

Tim Garcia and Clyde Lay applied recently-learned TQM principles in an everyday situation and found how rewarding it can be!

Tim, a Forestry Technician for the Pleasant Grove Ranger District, is responsible for special uses and watershed, wildlife and fisheries projects. Clyde is a Forestry Aid who works with the District's fire and trail crew.

Tim and Clyde were working on a fisheries project in Mineral Basin, a popular area on the Pleasant Grove Ranger District that historically receives heavy use from camping, hiking, and other recreation activities. Several projects were underway there to restore and rehabilitate recreation and wildlife sites.

They took time from work to stop and visit with Mr. and Mrs. Newmeyer, visitors to the Forest. The Newmeyers asked about the history of the area and any rules that might apply to their activities. Tim and Clyde briefly told them about the rich mining history of

Mineral Basin and some of the policies regarding recreation opportunities.

When the Newmeyers inquired about the fisheries project, Tim explained that rehabilitation is needed when either manmade or natural disasters occur. The damage at the project site was a result of both. Heavy use and unusual floods several years ago had severely impacted the site. Tim also explained how responsible actions by every individual could reduce negative impacts on public lands. Mr. Newmeyer commented, "It's sure nice to see a project being done instead of just hearing you talk about it!"

When asked how he felt about the encounter, Tim said, "We noticed that the couple made an extra effort to keep their camp clean which may have been an offshoot of our taking the time to explain a few things to them."

Tim and Clyde summed it up well when they said, "We didn't even think about NOT stopping to talk to them." And these customers appreciated the VIP treatment and wrote saying so:

The Story Continues

Pleasant Grove Ranger Station
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062

Dear Sir:

Recently, my wife and I spent one week in American Fork Canyon in the Uinta Forest's Mineral Basin area. This was the most relaxing vacation we have enjoyed in quite a long time and will always be remembered.

During our stay, two of your employees were most helpful by sharing their knowledge, pointing out areas of interest, and giving us a chance to see many projects being undertaken to improve a most valuable and beautiful area of the Uinta National Forest.

Both Mr. Timothy Garcia and Mr. Clyde Lay are an outstanding example of the high caliber individuals that exemplify the Forest Service.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Howard and Karla Newmeyer
Lehi, UT*

Everyday
SERVING
People

Mistakes happen and they can create negative feelings in our customers. Or, mistakes can provide opportunities to demonstrate concern and show our commitment to customer service. The Duchesne Ranger District (Ashley National Forest) chose to make an opportunity out of a mistake.

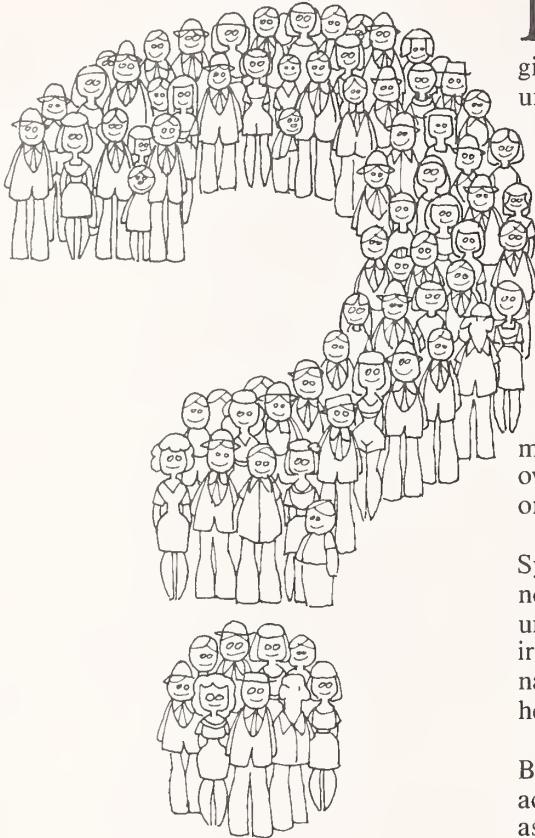
Mrs. Prudy Daniels made a group reservation for Yellowpine Campground in Rock Creek Canyon near Duchesne, Wyoming, or thought she did. MISTIX reserved Yellowpine Campground near St. George, Utah. When Trudy and a group of 150 people showed up in Rock Creek Canyon, J.C. Humphreys (Recreation Guard), Ann Bertola (Campground Host), and Sue Wight (Recreation Forester) responded quickly by finding an appropriate site for their family reunion. A refund of the reservation fee was also arranged.

Mrs. Daniels wrote that in spite of the reservation error, "our experience at Rock Creek was very definitely a thoroughly enjoyable one. Your people, especially Ann Bertola, made our unexpected stay most pleasant. I'm sure the mixup did not make the Forest Service's job any easier. We have received the refund—and again, thank you."

SPECIAL INTEREST

Life Tips . . .

Pick the Forest Service Employee with Diabetes



More than 12 million Americans have diabetes. About 7 million are known cases but at any given time there are more than 5 million undiagnosed diabetic people in the United States.

Type II (non-insulin dependent) diabetes accounts for 90 percent of all cases. It usually occurs in adults over 40. Because it comes on gradually, it may not be discovered until the patient has a medical examination for some other illness.

You may be one of the hidden 5 million; particularly, if you are overweight, you have diabetic relatives, or if you are over 40.

Symptoms of the disease include: abnormal thirst and frequent urination; unusual hunger or dramatic weight loss; irritability; weakness and fatigue; nausea, blurred vision, itching and slow healing of cuts.

Because most people with diabetes lead active lives, it is not seen by the public as a major health problem. Statistics tell a different story.

•Diabetes, with its complications, is the

third leading cause of death by disease in the United States; 34,000 deaths annually are directly attributable to diabetes. Over 300,000 are due to diabetes and its complications.

•Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness in persons ages 20 to 74. It makes people 25 times more likely to become blind.

•Diabetic people are 17 times more prone to kidney disease and 5 times more prone to gangrene, which can lead to amputation.

•They are twice as likely to develop heart disease and stroke.

The National Diabetes Data Group estimates that 1 in every 20 Americans has at least a minor degree of diabetes. In its early and less serious form, it can be controlled by simple changes in diet and lifestyle. Undetected, it goes about its business of slowly degenerating vital organs of the body.

If you haven't been checked for diabetes recently, a simple test will let you know there's no need to worry—or that something's going on in your body that should have your attention—NOW.

New Self-Study Course Helps New Federal Employees Succeed in their Jobs

A new self-study course, "Working for the U.S. Government: Starting Off Right," is offered by the National Independent Study Center, U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

The course goes beyond the usual orientation about benefits and work hours. The course teaches specific skills such as learning a new job, developing productive work habits, getting along with supervisors and co-workers and serving the public with courtesy. The skills are

presented in a series of lesson booklets which include activities requiring employee self-evaluation. The course includes a video that dramatizes some of these skills and a Supervisor's Guide showing ways to use the course to help new employees become more effective on the job.

If you are interested, contact your training office. Government employees must be nominated by their agencies.

LOCATION CHANGE

The Idaho Department of Lands has recently moved to a new location at 1215 West State Street, Boise, ID 83720-7000. The new telephone number is (208) 334-0200 and the FAX number is (208) 334-2339.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Wooden Concrete

The waste wood that ends up in the Nation's landfills could be reduced to small chunks and used to replace gravel in concrete. It is estimated that almost 6 million tons of waste wood, or one-fifth the annual cut on the Nation's National Forests, go to landfills each year where it is burned and releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Waste wood from demolished housing, old pallets, and municipal tree cuttings could be recycled.

An experimental mixture of cement, sand, and wood chunks less than three inches in size is being developed by the Houghton, Michigan, laboratory of the Forest Service's North Central Forest Experiment Station. The product is called "Chunkrete." The Houghton laboratory has already developed a machine that cuts chunks from trees, branches, and waste wood.

When all the gravel is replaced by chunkwood, Chunkrete is about one-third as strong in compression tests and one-half as strong in bending tests as standard concrete and is about 25 percent lighter. It can withstand up to 1,250 pounds per square inch compression, has a bending strength of up to 450 pounds per square inch and weighs less than 120 pounds a cubic foot. It would be suitable for many uses such as temporary traffic barriers, bases for traffic signs, cement pads for trailer parking and sidewalks. Chunkrete might also be useful where gravel for concrete is scarce but wood is plentiful.

Future research will concentrate on mix proportions, how mix and curing time affect strength, and the behavior of Chunkrete during freezing and thawing.

From a 9/26/90 North Central Experiment Station news release.

New Publications



"Intermountain Region Annual Quality Plan 1991" - each employee should receive a copy of this.

"Making a Difference" - a publication by the Civil Rights Action Team showing accomplishments and goals in this area.

"Doing Business with the Forest Service" - an Administrative Services document.

"Great Basin Experimental Center—Building a Great Future from a Distinguished Past" - (Manti-La Sal National Forest publication).

SAFETY ALERT About a GSA Product

Recently a user sprayed a product called "Kleen Screen" on a computer screen and wiped the surface with a paper towel igniting the screen and the towel. One probable cause could be the electrostatic action of the lint content in the paper towel igniting residual flammable or combustible components in the cleaner. The aerosol does not indicate the contents are flammable.

The stock number of "Kleen Screen" is 6850-01-207-3840. The manufacturer is Sunshine Chemical Specialists. PLEASE DO NOT USE THIS PRODUCT IF YOU HAVE IT ON HAND.

PERSONNEL

We Tried It and It WORKS!!!

For its members, the newly formed Region 4 Incident Information Team has been a positive experience!

The quest for team members began in February 1989 when all Regional Office employees received a letter asking for people with an interest in fire. The intensity of the fire situation for 4 consecutive years had shown the need for qualified Information Officers for routine and complex multi-agency incidents. Incidents are not just wildfires. Earthquakes, floods, and other disasters on the National Forests are also classed as incidents.

The Team was to be pilot tested in the Regional Office since employees are centrally located there. Team members were not to be formally associated with Public Affairs since during a large incident the Public Affairs Office is busy doing what it does so well. The Team was Wallace Shiverdecker's idea but concurrence and encouragement came from Patrick Sheehan, then the Director of Public Affairs, and Douglas Bird, then Director of Aviation and Fire Management.

With the approval of supervisors and Directors, five Regional Office employees have been trained and prepared for this Region 4 Incident Information Team for over a year. The Team was tested this past summer and it worked. Here are individual reactions to the Incident Information Team experience:

KEN KISER

Over the years, the thrill and adventure of initial attack fire suppression fades and the lure of more comfortable accommodations and less strenuous assignments takes over. The years bring experience and a perspective that encompasses the entire incident rather than a single sector or element.

As a young, 18-year-old Forestry Technician assigned as a member of the Flathead Hotshots, I felt I had the best job an adventurous college student could have. As the adventure became routine, I began to look around for new and challenging fire suppression opportunities. The smokejumpers seemed to offer a higher level of adventure, so a

fellow crew member and I dared each other to apply. That spring, we were on our way to McCall, Idaho, for "NED" training to become full-fledged smokejumpers. In some ways, I still feel this is the best fire duty; however, college graduation, permanent career duties and related responsibilities force most smokejumpers out before they are ready.

Time changes all things and it has changed my idea of the "ideal" fire duty. I have had an interest in fire suppression since my first exposure in 1969; however, my perspective on how I can best contribute has evolved. This perspective is influenced by circumstance as well as personal preference.

This brings me to Fire Information—something I never anticipated becoming involved in. However, it provides interesting opportunities to combine my interest in fire suppression (about 15 years of line experience) with an interest in public involvement (stemming from 9 years of forest planning experience and the inherent public participation responsibilities). I see an important link between the incident (fire), specific members of the overhead team, the public, and the Incident Information Team—a link that may have been minimized in the past but which needs to be recognized in the spirit of TQM.

In my opinion, there are certain complex situations where an Incident Information Team can assist in making sure customer expectations are not only met but exceeded, a situation which benefits the customer and the Forest Service.

NANCY WRIGHT

Although I've worked in Fire Dispatch for 5 years, the Wasatch Mountain Fire was my first fire camp assignment. There the Team helped Incident Command Information Officer Ann Stanworth set up an Information Center. Assignments were so varied that the long hours went extremely fast and it was a great learning experience.

As an employee of the State and Private Forestry staff, I often interact with other agencies concerning administrative work. It was far more interesting to interact as a Team with other agencies in a cooperative "Interagency" fire suppression effort.

I especially enjoyed the contacts with the media. It was a unique experience to meet the "behind-the-lines" television and newspaper reporters and be able to take them into fire camp to video and interview our firefighting personnel.

Because the Wasatch Mountain Fire destroyed 18 homes and took the lives of 2 firefighters, it was a very emotional assignment. The contacts with local residents as they returned to the burned area was heartbreakingly. I feel the Forest Service participa-

tion in the Information Booth set up in Midway as part of "Swiss Days" was an important followup gesture in helping alleviate the devastating impact from the fire and to stress fire prevention. I enjoyed directing the "Bus Tours."

Being a member of the Incident Information Team has truly been an interesting and unique learning experience and I look forward to participation in future Information Team assignments.

MARJORIE LEONARD

Dirty socks, lost toothbrush, late hours, exhausting routine, tramping off to the port-a-potty in the middle of the dark night, noisy generators, swimming in the river, freezing in the morning, sweating during the day, stumbling over bodies in a crowded tent, applying mascara by flashlight . . . ah, memories of fire camp!

After being dispatched to my first fire as a member of the newly formed Regional Incident Information Team, I was excited but somewhat skeptical and unsure about what Forest fire officials would expect of us. Would we be accepted as part of the fire team? Were we adequately trained to disseminate information properly? I was apprehensive about our overall abilities in approaching this "new" fire situation with ready-made ideas and solutions. Our "training" had been rather limited and our individual experience varied immensely! I was truly concerned that the overall impression of the Team would depend on each individual's ability to perform flawlessly. Perhaps this was a misconception but, nonetheless, a fear! I reasoned that when put in a situation requiring use of past experience, knowledge, and know-how, people function to the best of their ability . . . but did our Team have what it would take? I knew Team members were dedicated to the cause in spirit and all had the "gift of gab," well almost . . . but, could we perform?

Realization . . . we responded very well to the task at hand! I personally had learned and assimilated considerable information from the in-house class-work given at the Regional Office and could put that knowledge to work with a little guidance and direction from our team leader and team director. Reflecting back, I feel the team performed very well. It has enough combined talent to contribute greatly towards this particular effort; however, we need more hands-on experience in the field, as well as more classroom instruction. I would like to continue with the Team and build my own personal level of expertise. At the same time, I would encourage continued opportunities for others to become acquainted with the Team and pursue membership in it.

PERSONNEL

SUSAN HAYWOOD

The call I'd been anxiously awaiting finally came. Now I'd find out if I was ready for fire camp duty. My red pack held all the essentials I'd heard the "old timers" speak about; a knife, towel and washcloth, flashlight, and bedroll. It didn't take me long to realize I'd forgotten one important item: a tent. A shelter made of black plastic sheeting was a good substitute.

Ah, the fire camp life . . . bugs and weeds in my hair and half a million inch-tall protrusions jutting into my body through my quarter-inch thick foam sleeping pad. First note of the fire: remember to buy a tent and air mattress.

Being a woman in fire camp is interesting. First of all, I learned that walking around in a clean, class A uniform was not going to win me any popularity contests with women fire crew members. They had their jobs as part of the firefighting operation and I had mine. Actually, I think we shared an equal level of excitement.

I smiled and extended my non-caloused hands to the first members of the public who arrived with a million questions about the safety of their homes in the path of the Midway Fire. I spent about 6 years in the Public Affairs Office as a receptionist/typist so was comfortable answering questions and dealing with the public. Explaining why it took so long to get resources on a fire was a little uncomfortable especially since there were 2 lives and 18 homes lost. Squirting the media around was actually quite interesting.

By far my favorite jobs were working as a guide on the buses the Sheriff's Department supplied for touring the burned areas and at the fire information booth we set up during Midway's "Swiss Days." I think my educational background was invaluable for this. We were a popular attraction.

Judging by the crowds around them, the crews at fire camp liked our bulletin board and videotape of the TV coverage of the fire. The Midwayites thanked us for everyone's efforts in controlling the fire, and the media reporters were grateful to get so close to the actual fire and firefighters. I feel we were effective and working as a team is great. We shared talents and knowledge. I'm looking forward to next fire season.

SUE PREECE

For over 10 years, my summers have been filled with some type of fire activity. Looking for a more diverse job in the fire organization, my thoughts went to information. In my opinion, a good Incident Information Officer is one that keeps the camp informed, media happy, dispels rumors and stays out of the way. That made me a natural for the job. I'm nosey, far from shy and can talk to most anyone. This could be my niche . . .

We were packed for almost anything. We had uniforms (that's an entire story in itself), an AM/FM radio, camera, cassette recorder, papers, pens, pencils, tape, signs and even two-way radios. Then the call came. As the

assigned leader of this Team, I knew there were a few extra things I had to do before we left. And, it was like Murphy's Law; nothing went right. I reacted with apprehension, confusion, and fear. Can we really do this? Are we ready? NO! But we needed to get out and see if we could work together, if nothing else. Training and experience came through but there were flaws in our first assignment. We needed more experience in the information field and it seemed fire season was over. Then another call came. This time, most of the fears were gone. The people on the Team are professionals and I had confidence they would act that way under any circumstances. Actually, Working as a Team brought out the best in all of us.

My training in the Dispatch Office gave me the insight to work properly within the Incident Command System, to successfully accomplish media coverage, fire camp updates, citizen understanding, as well as processing internal information. There were some problems, nothing major, but this was a test for all of us. I think we passed the test and made progress.

The Regional Incident Information Team is ready for any situation. Similar to the Post Office carrier, "neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet, nor dark of night . . ." will keep the Team from providing prompt organized information expertise to any Forest facing major, complex and/or multi-agency incidents. Team members have the skills to manage information activities with the public and/or political or media interests in highly complex situations involving many agencies and in locations near large metropolitan areas.

The Incident Information Team is dispatched through normal dispatch channels when incident information activities exceed the capabilities of the involved Forest. Prior approval is needed from the local Forest Supervisor or Incident Commander and the Forest Public Affairs Officer. The Team "hits the ground running", gets its operation running smoothly and then leaves when its services are no longer needed.

If you doubt the usefulness of the Regional Incident Information Team and the Team's comments didn't convince you, give one of them a call. Better yet . . . when an incident presents itself, give them a call and watch them convince you!



Members of the Region 4 Incident Information Team, (left to right), Nancy Wright, Sue Preece, Marjorie Leonard, Ken Kiser, and Susan Haywood.

PERSONNEL

Editorial Policy—*Intermountain Reporter*

The following editorial policy reflects the Regional Forester's desire to produce a quality Regional newsletter that enhances internal communications and helps make the Intermountain Region a good place to work.

1. Articles in the Intermountain Reporter will feature people.
2. Each issue will attempt to contain something

about each National Forest within the Region.

3. The Regional Forester's message will express his current feelings regarding situations within the Region.
4. The content of the Reporter will be consistent with Forest Service policy.
5. All submissions must be delivered to the Editor by the 10th of the month prior to the desired publication date.

6. Articles should be sent to the Editor on DG (Editor:R04A). Photos to accompany text may be sent to the Editor separately.

7. Articles should not exceed 800 words in length.
8. Photos should be black and white.
9. All articles are subject to editing.
10. Not all articles that are submitted will be printed.
11. The Editor has final say over content.

NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION

NINTH ANNUAL RANGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

NFRA originated this unique award, with official approval of the Forest Service in 1982 and the Bureau of Land Management in 1987 to recognize the personal dedication of field personnel in the realm of recreation.

Top nominees selected by a Board of Judges will receive local and national recognition and will be honored at the Association's annual convention.

THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA WILL BE USED IN EVALUATING EACH NOMINEE:

- Dedication to duties and cooperation with private parties or permittees using Americas' public lands for recreational purposes.
- Specific accomplishments relating to service to the public.
- Participation in local community affairs.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE? Any Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management person from any Ranger District or Resource Area. He/she need not be a "ranger."

WHO MAY NOMINATE? Any private citizen using public lands for recreational purposes is encouraged to nominate.

WHAT TO SUBMIT. THE ENTRY FORM, below, along with:

- (a) One or more Letters of Nomination including biographical information and descriptions of specific actions of the nominee leading to better recreational service to visitors to public land.
- (b) Testimonial letters from public lands users and local officials about the nominee's role in events that further the public service mission of the Forest Service or the Bureau of Land Management.
- (c) Documentation of any previous awards or citations the nominee has received.
- (d) Photos, at least one individual photo for publicity purposes: B/W 3x5 or 5x7.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 1, 1991.

PLEASE SEND ALL ENTRIES TO: Board of Judges, "Ranger of the Year" Award, National Forest Recreation Association, Rt. 3, Box 210, Flagstaff, AZ 86004.

ENTRY FORM

I hereby nominate the person named below as candidate for "Ranger of the Year."

Nominee's Name _____

Job Title _____

Forest or State _____

District or Resource Area _____

My Name _____

Date _____

My Address _____

My Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL FOREST RECREATION ASSOCIATION

PERSONNEL

Award for Battling the Bugs

The Payette National Forest is experiencing tremendous mortality from spruce beetles. Although bark beetle infestations are a natural element in forest succession, these periodic outbreaks can cause impacts that prevent land managers from providing the full range of services that the public expects. To reduce anticipated losses from the spruce beetles and provide spruce trees in the future, the Payette Forest has initiated an aggressive program to identify and manage high value sites. This effort has put a tremendous additional workload on several folks on the Districts.

To recognize an exceptional effort toward achieving long-term Forest health, \$500 awards were given to Steve Donnelly, District Silviculturist, Council Ranger District, and Erin Rohlman, Forester, McCall Ranger District (formerly on the New Meadows District). These awards were jointly sponsored by Forest Pest Management's Boise Field Office and the Payette Forest's Timber Management Staff. The awards read, "For continued high quality support to Forest pest management in evaluating, developing and adapting new bark beetle strategies." Steve and Erin are commended for being "DOERS" in getting the job done the right way the first time!



Erin Rohlman, Forester, McCall Ranger District (left) and Steve Donnelly, District Silviculturist, Council Ranger District.

Idaho has a New Forest Supervisor

Charles (Chuck) C. Wildes became the Supervisor of the Challis National Forest on December 2. He succeeds Jack Griswold, who recently accepted the position of Deputy Director of the Timber Management Staff in the Regional Office.

Chuck transferred from Phoenix, Arizona, where he has been the Deputy Forest Supervisor of the Tonto National Forest. While serving in that position, he was involved in the Arizona Recreation Initiative and chaired the task force which produced the Recreation Vision Statement for the Arizona National Forests.

His career began in 1962 as a seasonal on the Flathead National Forest in Montana, working as a smokechaser, lookout, and trail foreman until 1966. For the next 3 years, he was a smokejumper for the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. Subsequently, he held positions that involved him in various resource activities such as



Charles C. Wildes.

timber, recreation, minerals, land uses, fire, wilderness, wildlife and range.

Chuck graduated from the University of Montana with a degree in forestry.

Chuck and his wife, Gay, are happy about their new assignment in Challis. Could that have something to do with the opportunities the Challis Forest has for Chuck to enjoy his interests in hunting with primitive and modern weapons, fishing and camping. Oh yes, he is also a runner.

Region 4 welcomes the Wildes who have three grown daughters—Tammy, Annette and Laura.



On September 29, the Information Systems Staff honored its Hispanic members and the arrival of its new Director, Steve Werner (distinguishable by the rose and vacuum) at an open house. More than 200 Region and Station personnel attended. This picture shows some of the domestic help from Information Systems who had the tough job of restoring their office space to its original order. Pictured left to right: Royd Van Orden, Frank Berrett, Steve Werner, Gary Otwell, Chuck Butts, Dave Prevedel and John Hoel.

PERSONNEL

Awards

ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

Cash

DAVE WILSON - For performing the Duchesne District's timber program in a superior manner during the absence of a Forester.

JAY C. HUMPHREYS - For dealing with MISTIX and handling an additional recreational workload in Rock Creek at a high quality standard.

JUSTIN IORG and RULEN WOOLLEY - For making significant contributions to the BOR projects while maintaining normal duties.

KENNETH CARLILE, SHIRLEY FARRAR, FERRON GINES, SCOTT ROBERTS and CHESTER WARD - For superior performance in recreation/fire/facilities and other duties.

BRENT LEE and RAY BLANEY - For successfully completing BOR projects at a high quality standard while maintaining normal duties.

RALPH GILES - For successfully completing BOR projects at a high quality standard while maintaining regular District duties.

DAHL GARDNER - For providing invaluable expertise during the construction of Grandview toilet on the Duchesne RD.

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

Quality Step Increase

MICHAEL DIMMET, Supervisory Forestry Technician, Cascade RD - For continued performance exceeding expectations in timber sale preparation and small sales administration on the District.

DONALD GIBBENS, Civil Engineering Technician, Cascade RD - For continued outstanding performance in facilities maintenance on the District.

Cash

TOM MOXHAM and MARLENE JOHNSON, Forestry Technicians, Boise RD - For outstanding performance and professional judgment as Engine Foremen.

KURT JONES, Assistant Engine Foreman, Mountain Home RD - For superior performance, leadership ability and accepting responsibility as Engine Operator.

DUANE HEDA, Civil Engineering Technician, Mountain Home RD - For initiative, willingness to assume responsibility and quality of work in planning, contracting and inspecting implementation of the District's Road Management Plan. CAROL SHOBE, Computer Assistant, SO - For exemplary skill and effort in preparing Forest personnel software and data base for switch from Payette NF personnel cluster.

TERRY FORD and MELVIN HAAS, Civil Engineering Technicians, Cascade RD - For contributing to the planning, design and construction of the East Mountain ATV Trail.

ROBERT LOKKER, Forestry Technician, Cascade RD - For displaying outstanding initiative in integrated forest pest management.

Group

BOISE RANGER DISTRICT—LAURIE FINK, MARY CLARK, GREG LESCH, CHRIS ARNIS, RICHARD BROWN and CRAIG VARDAMON - For suggestions to improve the work environment and safety program on the District.

SO ENGINEERING—MARSH GREEN, GORDON NUTT, DIANA WALL, and AUDREY MILLER - For an excellent job of serving people, be they public or fellow employees and for extra effort to complete every person's request for maps and help for Project Lightning, GIS, timber salvage, fire and recreation.

PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

Cash

LISA MCANULTY and HEIDI GULICK, Range Technicians; JASON DAVIES, MICHAEL LEWIS, MATTHEW FOUCHE, CHRISTIAN P. MATT, GARY JENSEN, TRAVIS CLARK, STEVEN CARTER and THOMAS HUDSON, Forestry Technicians; SUSAN STAFFORD, Forester; DOUGLAS HUGGINS, MELANIE SUTTON, MICHAEL GETTLE, FARRELL KANADY, BRYON BONNELL, EDWIN SVANCARA, ALLEN CLARK, LINDA STRAIN, KRISTI MATHEWS, HAROLD MCCHESNEY, MONTE HURD and GERALD KING, Forestry Technicians; SACHI SAKOI, Resource Clerk; MARGARET SIPE, SCSEP; VICTORIA WARD, Information Receptionist; RANDY SIMRELL, Forestry Technician; CAROL BOYD, Range Conservationist; MICHAEL STAYTON, Forester; MERRILL SALEEN and JEANNE FELMY, Forestry Technicians, and SIGNA HUTCHISON, Support Services Supervisor, Weiser RD - For maintaining a positive attitude leading to a safe work environment for the 1990 field season.

Length of Service

30 Years

PHILIP GILMAN, Supervisory Land Use Planner, SO

20 Years

WALTER ROGERS, Supervisory Forester, Council RD; ARTA SMITH, Support Services Supervisor, SO-E; LARRY NEWELL, Civil Engineering Technician, McCall RD; LARRY SWAN, Forestry Technician, SO-Fire.

10 Years

JAMES AMELL, Lead Forestry Technician, Smokejumpers; PAMELA BARNETT, Support Services Supervisor, Council RD; ANNA (REE) BRANNON, Land Management Planning Specialist, SO; MICHAEL COFFEY, Supervisory Survey Technician, SO-E; LINDA FITCH, McCall District Ranger; RICHARD HUDSON, Lead Forestry Technician, Smokejumpers; JOHN HUMPHRIES, Supervisory Forestry Technician, Smokejumpers; RUTH MONAHAN, Krassel District Ranger; DENNIS PEEBLER, Lead Forestry Technician, McCall RD; JIMMIE RUSKA, Forestry Technician, SO-Timber; MARK SIGRIST, Forester, New Meadows RD; MONA WRIGHT, Archeologist, SO-Fire.

TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST

Cash

MERVIN D. LENT, ROBERT E. SHOEMAKER and MICHAEL T. GAFFNEY, Forestry Technicians/Fire Management, Bridgeport RD - For superior performance. MICHAEL J. WILDE, Supervisory Forestry Technician, Carson RD - For providing outstanding leadership and developing the cooperation of the Recreation and Fire shops on the south end of the Carson District

during the summer of 1990.

JOCELYN BIRO, Forester, Carson RD - For leadership in the Tahoe Meadows Challenge Cost Share Project.

CAROL A. BURCELL, Fire Prevention Officer, Carson RD - For outstanding efforts and dedication in getting Smokey back into the community.

ROBERT D. JENNINGS, Assistant District Fire Management Officer, Carson RD - For outstanding performance and dedication to fire protection on the Sierra Front during extreme fire conditions in 1990.

ROBERT C. WORKMAN, Super Hot Shots, Carson RD - For excellent recruitment efforts to establish diversity and outstanding leadership in developing the Hot Shot Crew.

MARGARET DOWD, Information Assistant, Carson RD - For outstanding performance.

ROBBIN E. ALPAUGH, NEAL P. HAY, ROBERT P. RANDOLPH, BRIAN T. STEINHARDT and SCOTT M. LEE, Forestry Aids, Carson RD - For exemplary performance in suppressing wildland fires during several lightning events.

PAUL K. WASHAM, STEVEN C. HIGLEY, CHRISTOPHER D. HINES, and JAMIE R. NYSWONGER, Forestry Technicians, Carson RD - For exemplary performance in suppressing wildland fires during several lightning events.

THOMAS R. MCCUE and STEVEN L. LEAR, Supervisory Forestry Technicians, Carson RD - For exemplary performance in organizing for fire suppression during several major lightning events.

MINDY M. STEVENSON, KENT A. WEDIN, DEBRA L. FRIEVALT and CHARLES L. DOBSON, Forestry Technicians, Carson RD - For exemplary performance leading firefighters during several lightning events.

DEBORAH A. ADKINS and ANNETTE G. GESIRIECH, Forestry Aids, Carson RD - For exemplary performance in suppressing wildland fires during several lightning events.

DAVID M. VERHEY, Forestry Aid, Carson RD - For exceeding the quantity and quality of work expected of a seasonal Wilderness Ranger.

JACK P. FINLEY, Forestry Technician, Bridgeport RD - For superior performance as the Toiyabe Interagency Helicopter Manager and for efforts in facilities maintenance.

MEI TING MARK, Wildlife Biologist, Bridgeport RD - For sustained superior performance managing the wildlife and fisheries programs on the District from 1/89 to 9/89.

DAVID C. NIEHAUS, Forester, and AMANDA BRINNAND, Forestry Technician, Carson RD - For outstanding leadership efforts during the 1990 Trout Unlimited volunteer project to improve Paiute cutthroat trout habitat in the Silver King drainage.

EUGENE J. LACHANCE, Forestry Technician, Carson RD - For superior performance as a trail crew member.

STUART C. VOLKLAND, Forestry Technician, Bridgeport RD - For superior performance as Assistant Fire Management Officer and District Safety Coordinator.

MICHAEL L. DONDERO, District Fire Management Officer, Carson RD - For outstanding performance and dedication to fire protection on the Sierra Front during extreme severe fire conditions in 1990.

PERSONNEL

Roll Call

ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST

Appointments

KEITH BABCOCK, Maintenance Worker, Flaming Gorge RD

CHRISTOPHER GAMBLE, Lead Forestry Technician

Promotion in Place

GYETEN D. GOODWIN, Civil Engineering Technician, SO

Reassignment

CHERI PFAFFENGUT, Range Conservationist, Duchesne RD, to Kings River RD, Sierra NF

Retirement

RALPH GILES, Duchesne RD

BOISE NATIONAL FOREST

Appointment

KATHRYN BEALL, Cultural Assistant, Lucky Peak Nursery

Promotions

IDA CAMERENA, Clerk Typist, SO-Personnel, to Personnel Clerk, SO-Personnel
DOUGLAS FINCH, Forestry Aid, Lowman RD, to Forestry Technician, Lowman RD

Promotion in Place

MARLENE JOHNSON, Forestry Technician, Boise RD

Reassignment

ALLAN MCCOMBIE, Default Coordinator, WOTM, to Administrative Officer, SO

Retirements

DAVE RITTERSBACHER, Forest Supervisor
GLEN MACY, Forestry Technician, Boise RD
MARY ELLEN PAYNE, Clerk Typist, Emmett RD

Transfer Out

JOHN TOMLINSON, Laborer, Lucky Peak Nursery, to the Post Office

BRIDGER-TETON NATIONAL FOREST

CARIBOU NATIONAL FOREST

CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST

Reassignment

MAX REID, District Ranger, Coconino NF, to Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, SO

HUMBOLDT NATIONAL FOREST

Promotions in Place

DEBORAH L. FINLEY, Forestry Technician
DOUGLAS CLARKE, Forester, Mountain City RD

Reassignment

STEVEN J. ANDERSON, Wildlife Biologist, Happy Camp RD, R-5, to Fisheries/Wildlife Biologist, SO

Retirement

JOHN C. ROSE, JR., Engineering Equipment Operator

Transfer In

LISA BETH DIERCKS, Range Conservationist,

Nevada BLM, to Range Conservationist, Ely RD

MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST

PAYETTE NATIONAL FOREST

Appointments

JANET RICCI, Clerk-Typist, McCall RD
JAMES WORAS, Survey Technician, E, SO

Promotions

SHERI KOSOSIK, Accounting Technician, SO, to Personnel Assistant, SO
TINA FLORENCE, Forestry Aid, Council RD, to Forestry Technician, Council RD

Promotions in Place

RONNA SIMON, Hydrologist, Council RD
TRACY BECK, Forester, Council RD

Reassignments

JOY THOMAS, Personnel Assistant, SO, to Personnel Specialist, SO
MICHAEL MONAHAN, Forestry Technician, Challis NF, to Forestry Technician (Fire), SO

SALMON NATIONAL FOREST

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST

TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST

TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST

Reassignments

PEGGY L. GARRISON, Computer Assistant, Bridgeport RD, to Personnel Clerk
PAULETTE BENALLY, Information Receptionist/Typing, to Personnel Clerk/Typing
ROLAND SHAW, Timber Management Assistant, Lowman RD, Boise NF, to Supervisory Forester, Carson RD

Resignation

DAVID C. NEIHOUS, Forester, Carson RD

UINTA NATIONAL FOREST

WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST

Reassignment

WILLIAM P. LEVERE, Economist, TM-WO, to Deputy Forest Supervisor

Obituaries

PHILLIP WESTON VANCE

48-year-old Forester on the McCall Ranger District, died September 14 in a Boise hospital after a heroic battle with cancer. Phil was born in Richfield, Utah, and attended school in Salt Lake. He was a student at the University of Utah but graduated from Utah State University with a bachelor of science degree in forestry and range management in 1967.

He, his wife, Jean, and their family lived in Hyrum, Utah; Evanston, Wyoming; Pinedale, Wyoming; Sedona, Arizona; and Council, Idaho. They spent 10 years in McCall, the last 4 Phil was a Ski Ranger over the Brundage Mountain Ski Area. These moves add up to 23 years of Forest Service employment in jobs that included Range Conservationist, Resource Forester, Assistant Forest Planner, Forest Planner, and Minerals and Special Use Administrator on the Wasatch, Bridger-Teton, Coconino and Payette National Forests.

For most of his career, he fought fires throughout the West. He served the last several years as the Logistics Officer on the Great Basin Regional Fire Team and for 3 years taught bi-annual courses in minerals management at the National Training Center in Marana, Arizona.

The mountains of the West gave him pleasure. He loved children, animals, country music, high mountain lakes and laughing with friends. He also loved hunting and fishing but his greatest joy came from being with his wife and 5 children.

Memorials may be sent to the Vance Children College Memorial Fund at West One Bank, McCall, Idaho 83638.

Intermountain Reporter

Published for Forest Service employees and retirees by the Public Affairs Office, Intermountain Region, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture—Federal Office Bldg., 324 25th Street, Ogden, Utah 84401.

Colleen Anderson, Editor
Susan McDaniel, Design and Layout

HISTORY

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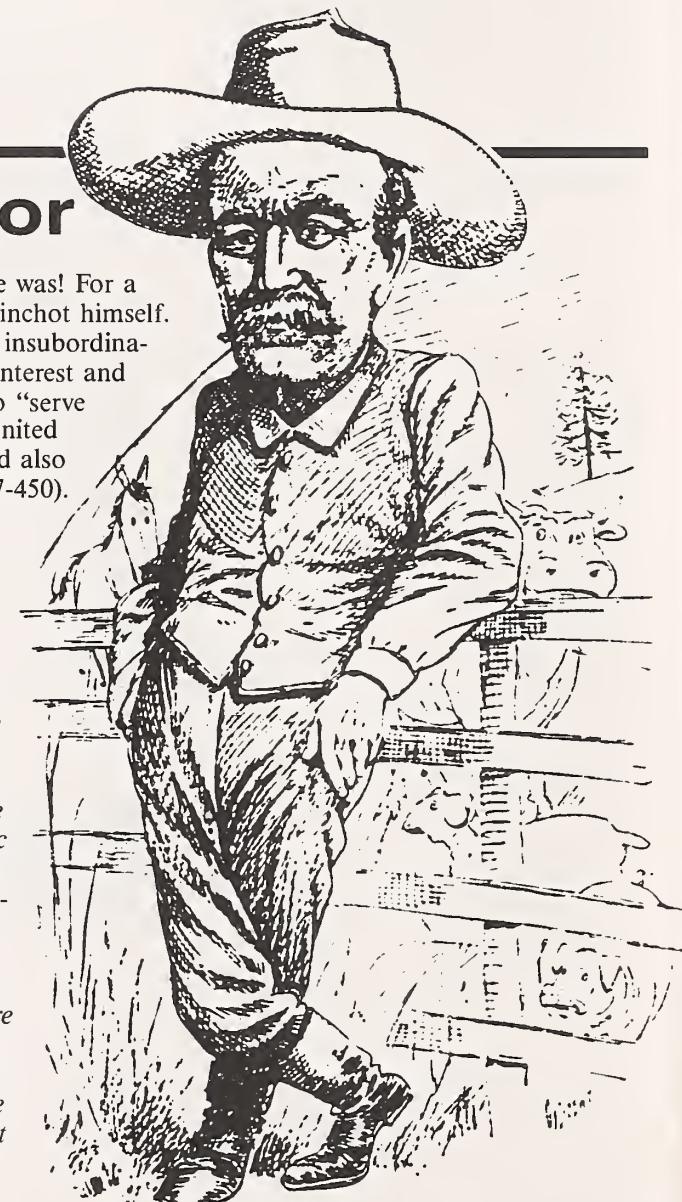
Defender and Protector

Did you know Gifford Pinchot was fired? Hard to believe, but he was! For a complete account, read, "Breaking New Ground," by Gifford Pinchot himself. He'll tell you all about it. The gist of it is that he was fired for insubordination. He was a firm believer that it was his duty to defend the public interest and protect public lands from private monopolies. His priority was truly to "serve the people," even if that meant disagreeing with the President of the United States! He condemned the action of Secretary of Interior Ballinger and also publicly criticized a decision made by President Taft! (Gifford, pp. 427-450).

On January 8, 1910, the morning after he was fired, Pinchot went into his office and told his employees:

"Never allow yourselves to forget that you are serving a much greater master than the Department of Agriculture or even the Administration. You are serving the people of the United States . . . The best service you can do me, the best testimonial I can get from you, is for you to stick to this work. I want you to stay by it with the same point of view, the same spirit, the same energy, the same devotion that have made the Forest Service the best body under the Government . . . You are engaged in one of the best pieces of public service that has ever been done in this country, and you have been doing it with a finer spirit than any other body of Government people . . . I have always been able to count on the loyalty and devotion of this Service to the uttermost. Continue that loyalty to the cause. The work is the big thing. Don't let the spirit of this Service decline one-half inch. Stay in the Service. Stick to the work. You are the servants of the people of the United States. I shall esteem it the highest compliment that you can pay me and the highest evidence of the spirit in which we have been working together, if you stand by the ship. Conservation is my lifework, in the Government service or out of it. And this is the most important piece of conservation work there is. Go ahead with it, exactly as if I were still here."

-Gifford Pinchot
"Breaking New Ground"
(pp. 454-455)



The illustration came from Gifford Pinchot scrapbooks, Library of Congress.